

Message Text

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12

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SY-05 SCCT-01 OPR-02 DHA-02

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 SS-15 SCS-03 SCA-01

SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 /060 W
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FM AMCONSUL ASMARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3739V

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO PRIORITY

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON

COMNAVTELCOM WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN

COMIDEASTFOR

NAVCOMMUNIT ASMARA

NAVCOMMSTA NEA MAKRI

CNO WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASMARA 1026

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS ASEC ET

SUBJ: RELOCATION AND CONSOLIDATION OF AMERICANS: STATUS REPORT

REF: A) ASMARA 1024; B) ADDIS 14833; C) STATE 302887

1. AT 1100 HOURS CHRISTMAS DAY, APO AND OIC NAVCOMMUNIT MET WITH BG GETACHEW, MARTIAL LAW ADMINISTRATOR CONCERNING ISSUE OF EXORBITANT RENTS PROPOSED BY EPMG HOUSING AUTHORITY. GETACHEW WAS SYMPATEHTIC TO OUR ARGUMENTS AND AGREED THAT RENTS WERE BASED ON HOUSING MARKET SITUATION WHICH NO LONGER EXISTS. HE PROMISED TO INSTRUCT APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS TO RECONSIDER RENTS. ISSUE OF POSTING GUARDS WAS RAISED IN PASSING, AND LEFT TO BE RESOLVED ONCE RENTS ISSUE WAS SETTLED. ON FRIDAY DEC. 26, OIC AND DOD-CONTRACT MANAGERS MET WITH HOUSING AUTHORITY COMMITTEE
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ON RENTS, AND VISITED EACH HOUSE WITH THEM. IT WAS AGREED THAT

ALL HOUSES REQUIRED EXTENSIVE CLEANUP AND REPAIR AND THIS WOULD REDUCE RENTAL COSTS.

2. OIC AND DOD-CONTRACT MANAGERS MET AGAIN WITH HOUSING AUTHORITY 1000 HOURS SATURDAY DEC. 27, AND AFTER SOME DISCUSSION, IT WAS AGREED TO SET RENTS AT SITE FOR SINGLE EMPLOYEES ADJACENT TO TRACT ECHO AT ET\$90 PER MONTH (DOWN FROM ET\$120-160) FOR EACH UNIT, AND ET\$212 (DOWN FROM ET\$450-500) FOR DOD-MANAGERS' HOUSING AT BAROTOLO ESTATES. THESE RATES ARE CONSIDERED TO BE WELL WITHIN ACCEPTABLE LIMITS. CLEANUP AND REPAIR WORK WAS BEGUN IMMEDIATELY, AND CONTRACTS WILL BE SIGNED AT 1500 HOURS SATURDAY.

3. AT 1800 HOURS CHRISTMAS DAY ALL KAGNEW EMPLOYEES HAD MOVED ON TO TRACT ECHO. ALTHOUGH THIS WAS BITTER CHRISTMAS PRESENT, INITIAL REACTIONS IN TERMS OF MORALE WAS SURPRISINGLY GOOD, ALTHOUGH THERE WAS WIDESPREAD GRUMBLING AT REPEATED FAILURE THROUGHOUT WEEK TO DELIVER CHRISTMAS MAIL. APO, OIC AND DOD-MANAGERS AGREED THAT MAINTENANCE OF KAGNEW CIVILIANS MORALE WILL HINGE ON DEMONSTRATED PROGRESS MADE IN NEGOTIATIONS FOR OFF-TRACT HOUSING. TO DATE, NO RESIGNATIONS FROM DOD CIVILIANS HAVE BEEN TENDERED THOUGH TWO OR THREE ARE THREATENING. ONE CISCO EMPLOYEE WAS FIRED STAURDAY, HOWEVER, FOR VIOLATION OF REGULATIONS CONCERNING VISITORS AT TRACT.

4. WITH SUCCESS ON ISSUE OF RENTS AND START OF CLEANUP AND REPAIR WORK, ONLY OUTSTANDING ISSUE IS POSTING OF EPMG GUARDS AT BAROTOLO ESTATES. APO AND OIC INTEND TO MEET WITH BG GETACHEW ON THIS MATTER MORNING OF DECEMBER 30, (UNDER ASSUMPTION THAT DEC. 28 DATE CITED REF B WAS SUPPOSED TO BE DEC. 29) TO PURSUE THIS MATTER FURTHER. SHOULD THERE BE RESISTANCE TO THIS MEASURE, CONGEN WILL IMMEDIATELY ALERT EMBASSY TO INCREASE PRESSURES ON EPMG.
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